the per capita net availability of foodgrains however, also depends upon other factors like change in stocks, imports/ exports, etc. The per capita net availability of foodgrains has increased from 447.6 gms. per day in 1988 to 463.0 gm. per day in 1993.

(c) The Government has been implementing crop production schemes in the country for the development of rice, wheat, coarse cereals, etc. The on-going scheme for cereals has been modified from the year 1994-95 with an objective of increasing overall production and productivity of cereals through development of cropping system as a whole under specified crop based cropping systems.

**गुजरात में गेहूं और चावल की जिला-वार आवश्यकता का आकलन**

7406. श्री गोपाल सिंह जी• सोलंकी: क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे किः

(क) क्या सरकार ने वर्ष 1995-96 के लिए गुजरात में गेहूं और चावल की जिला-वार आवश्यकता का कोई आकलन किया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या सरकार ने इस प्रयोजनार्थ कोई लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ङ) इस लक्ष्य की प्राप्ति हेतु क्या कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अरविंद नेताम): (क) से (घ) गेहूं और चावल की जिलावार आवश्यकता का आकलन और इस प्रयोजनार्थ लक्ष्यों के निर्धारण का निर्णय राज्य सरकारों द्वारा लिया जाता है। उक्त आंकड़ों की मानिटरिंग केन्द्रीय स्तर पर नहीं की जाती।

(ङ) सरकार अनाज के समग्र उत्पादन और उत्पादकता में वृद्धि करने के लिए विशिष्ट फसल आधारित फसल प्रणालियों के विकास के माध्यम से फसल उत्पादन योजनाओं का कार्यान्वयन कर रहा है। विभिन्न राज्यों को केन्द्रीय आबंटन की पूर्ति करने के लिए भारतीय खाद्य निगम पर्याप्त स्टाफ रखने का प्रयास करता है।

**Expansion of Agricultural Land**

7407. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether agricultural land is required to be expanded and developed to achieve the targets of agricultural production by the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether additional undisputed land is lying idle for distribution and development;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(d) whether Government have asked the State Governments for proper distribution of this land;

(e) whether any guidelines have been issued in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) The strategy for increasing the agricultural production in the 8th Five Year Plan lays emphasis on increasing the productivity of crops from the existing cultivated land through the implementation of Thrust Programmes on various important crops by adopting a system approach.

(b) and (c) The land available for distribution free from all encumbrances in different States as given in the enclosed Statement-I *(See* below).

(d) The issue relating to the distribution of ceiling surplus land has been discussed at various fora including Revenue/Chief Ministers' Conference wherein the States have been advised to take administrative as well as legal measures for expeditious distribution of available ceiling surplus land.

(e) and (0 Yes Sir, guidelines, based on the recommendations of the Chief Ministers' Conference held in 1972 have been issued to the States/U.Ts. for

implementing land ceiling laws. A copy of these guidelines given as Statement-I.

**Statement-I**

*Area available for distribution free from all encumbrances*

(As on September, 1994)

Area in Acres

| S. No. | Name of the States/U.Ts. | Net area available for distribution |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 6886 |
| 2. | Assam | 38040 |
| 3. | Bihar | 4515 |
| 4. | Gujarat | 19114 |
| 5. | Haryana | 4483 |
| 6. | Himachal Pradesh | 4183 |
| 7. | Jammu & Kashmir | 5575 |
| 8. | Karnataka | Nil |
| 9. | Kerala | 2382 |
| 10. | Madhya Pradesh | 959 |
| 11. | Maharashtra | 631 |
| 12. | Manipur | 3 |
| 13. | Orissa | 696 |
| 14. | Punjab | 89 |
| 15. | Rajasthan | 7896 |
| 16. | Tamil Nadu | 796 |
| 17. | Tripura | — |
| 18. | Uttar Pradesh | 947 |
| 19. | West Bengal | — |
| | UNION TERRITORIES | |
| 20. | D. & N. Haveli | 343 |
| 21. | Delhi | 63 |
| 22. | Pondicherry | 81 |
| | ALL INDIA | 97632 |

**Statement-II**

*Guidelines drawn up on the basis of the conclusions of the Chief Ministers Conference on Ceiling on Agricultural Holdings Held on July 23, 1972*

I. LEVEL OF CEILING

(i) The best category of land in a State with assured irrigation and capable of yielding at least two crops a year should have ceiling within the range of 10 to 18 acres taking into account the fertility of soil and water conditions.

Allowance may be made for land irrigated from private sources and capable of growing at least two crops in a year by equating 1.25 acres of such land with 1 acre of land irrigated from public sources and capable of growing at least two crops in a year. The ceiling for such land irrigated from private sources shall not, however, exceed 18 acres.

The term "irrigation from private sources" shall mean irrigation from tubewell or lift irrigationfrom a preanial water source operated by diesel and/or electric power.

There will be no reclassification of land falling within the categories referred to in clauses (ii) and (iii) below for the purpose of the ceiling law consequent upon the completion of a private irrigation scheme subsequent to the 15th August, 1972.

(ii) In the case of land having assured irrigation for only one crop in a year, the ceiling shall not exceed 27 acres.

(iii) For all other types of land the ceiling shall not exceed 54 acres. In areas where there is potential for sinking tubewells the ceiling for drylands may be kept below 54 acres in the discretion of the State Government.

(iv) In special cases like desert areas and hilly areas the ceiling for category (iii) may have to be relaxed. The State Governments may discuss specific cases with the ministry of Agriculture before formulating their ceiling laws.

(v) In the case of owners with holdings consisting of different types of land, the total holdings after converting the better categories of land into the lowest category shall not exceed 54 acres.

II. UNIT OF APPLICATION OF CEILING (i) The unit of application of ceiling shall be a family of five members, the term "family" being defined so as to include husband, wife and minor children. Where the number of members

in the family exceeds five, additional land may be allowed for each member in excess of five in such a manner that the total area admissible to the family does not exceed twice the ceiling limit for a family of five members. The ceiling will apply to the aggregate area by all the members of the family.

(ii) Where both the husband and wife hold lands in their own names, the two will have rights in the properties within the ceiling in proportion to the value of the land held by each before the application of ceiling.

(iii) Every major son will be treated as a separate unit for the purpose of application of ceiling.

It should be ensured that there is no discrimination between major children governed by different systems of personal laws.

III. RETROSPECTIVE EFFECT

The amended ceiling laws should be given retrospective effect from a date not later than 24th January, 1971. A specific provision should be made in the ceiling law making it clear that the onus of proving the bonafide nature of any transfer of land made after that date will be on the transferor.

IV. EXEMPTIONS

(i) The exemptions in favour of plantations of tea, coffee, rubber, cardamom and cocoa should continue.

(ii) Lands held by the Bhoodan Yagnya Committee, Cooperative Banks, Nationalised Banks, Central or State Governments and local bodies should continue to enjoy exemption. Similarly, land held by industrial or commercial undertakings for non-agricultural purposes should be exempted from the ceiling law.

(iii) In the case of registered cooperative farming societies exemption may be granted with the stipulation that while computing the ceiling area for a member his share in the cooperative society will be taken into account alongwith his other lands.

(iv) Lands held by Agricultural Universities, Agricultural Colleges, Agricultural Schools and Research Institutions should be exempted from the ceiling law.

(v) State Governments may, in their discretion, grant exemption to the existing religious, charitable and educational trusts of a public nature. The institutions or trusts will not be exempted from the operation of tenancy laws and all the tillers of the land should be brought in direct relationship with the trusts or institutions to the exclusion of all inter-mediary interests.

No exemption should be allowed to private trusts, of any kind.

(vi) In the case of existing Gowshalas of a public nature and existing stud farms, the State Governments may take a decision in consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture.

(vii) No exemption should be allowed in the case of sugarcane farms. However, I for the purpose of research and develop- ment sugarcane factories may be permitted to retain an area not exceeding 100 acres.

(viii) For the purpose of ceiling the existing orchards may be treated as dry land and no additional land should be allowed to be retained as recommended earlier. Coconut and arecanut gardens, banana orchards, gauva gardens and vine yards will not be treated as orchards. When surplus orchard land vesting in Government is distributed, the assignees should be required to maintain the orchard in tact.

(ix) All other existing exemptions including that in respect of lands given as gallantry award should be withdrawn.

V. COMPENSATION

(i) Compensation payable for the surplus land on imposition of ceiling laws should be fixed well below the market value of the property so that it is within

the paying capacity of the new allottees mainly comprising the landless agricultural workers who belong to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(ii) The compensation may be fixed in grades/slabs and preferably in multiples of land revenue payable for the land.

(iii) The scheme for compensation should be worked out in such a manner that there will be no financial burden on the Central and State Governments.

VI. DISTRIBUTION OF SURPLUS LAND

While distributing surplus land, priority should be given to the landless agricultural workers, particularly those belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

VII. TARGET FOR ENACTMENT OF NEW LAWS

The amended ceiling laws should be enacted by 31st December, 1972.

VIII. INCLUSION IN THE NINTH SCHEDULE TO THE CONSTITUTION

All the amended laws should be included in the Ninth Schedule to the Constitution.

IX. IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation will be the responsibility of the State Governments. They would set up non-official bodies at appropriate levels and place competent official organisation in order to administer the ceiling legislation. The concurrence of the Central Government will be obtained in respect of any incidental departure from the guidelines necessitated by the special conditions prevailing in any State or Union Territory.

**Directorate of cotton development**

7408. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Director (Technical) is to act as Member Secretary of the Indian Cotton Development Council, which is an advisor, body, functioning in the Directorate of Cotton Development;

(b) if so, whether this requirement was complied with during the past few meetings; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) to (c) As per the constitution of the Indian Cotton Development Council, the Director of Directorate of Cotton Development, Bombay, is its Member-Secretary. There is no post of Director (Technical) in the Directorate. The post of Director being vacant, the Director-in-charge has been acting as the Member Secretary of the Council.

**Newspaper Report on US Investment in Agri-Business**

7409. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US agri-business investors are keen to invest in bulk handling and storage with modern loading and unloading facilities at the ports in India provided Government interference in this sector was reduced, as reported in the 'Hindustan Times', dated 31st March, 1995, under the caption "US for investment in agri-business";

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) No proposal has been received by the concerned Ministry of Surface Transport from US agri-business investors for investment in creation of modern bulk handling and storage facilities at the major Ports in India.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.